

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 80

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AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Notice of Oxygenate Use in Gasoline Panel Meeting

SUMMARY: On November 30, 1998, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol M. Browner announced the creation of a blue-ribbon panel of leading experts from the public health and scientific communities, automotive fuels industry, water utilities, and local and State government to review the important issues posed by the use of MTBE and other oxygenates in gasoline. EPA created the panel to gain a better understanding of the public health concerns raised by the discovery of MTBE in some water supplies. The panel will be chaired by Mr. Daniel Greenbaum, President of the Health Effects Institute (HEI) of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Mr. Robert Perciasepe, Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, US EPA.

This notice announces the time and place for the first meeting of the panel.

DATES: The blue-ribbon panel reviewing the use of oxygenates in gasoline will conduct its first meeting on Friday, January 22, 1999, in Washington DC beginning at 8:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Marriott Crystal City, 1999 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Smith at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air and Radiation, 401 M Street, SW (6406J), Washington, D.C. 20460, (202) 564-9674, or John Brophy at (202) 564-9068.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This will be the first of several meetings at locations around the country to hear from regional and national experts on the facts concerning oxygenate use in fuel. In addition to invited presentations, the panel has set aside time for public comment. A sign-up sheet will be available at the registration table the morning of the meeting and any person desiring to make a brief statement should sign-up by 11:00 a.m. These statements will be scheduled on a first come, first serve basis and may be limited in length to allow for participation

by all parties. The panel will also be accepting written submissions. Written submissions can be mailed to US EPA, 401 M Street, SW, Mail Code 6406J (Attn: Blue-Ribbon Panel), Washington, DC 20460.

Date: _____

Signed: _____
Margo T. Oge
Director
Office of Mobile Sources